

GEN. BOTHA'S SURRENDER

Not Yet Confirmed by the British War Office.

GEN. DEWET'S MOVEMENTS

French and Smith-Dorrien Both Make Important Captures—'Gat' Howard's Death—More Fighting Anticipated—What Pro-Boers Think.

London, Feb. 28.—Bennett Burleigh wires to the Daily Telegraph from De Aar, under Tuesday's date, as follows: The Orange River remains high. Our columns are tightening their grip upon Steyn, DeWet and Hertzog near Petrusville, and our patrols have been engaged. I anticipate that a general action is about to be fought and that the collision is likely to prove serious.

The Botha Problem.

London, March 1.—The Daily News says: We learn that Commandant-General Botha offered to surrender on certain conditions and that pro-Boers are still in progress. It is probable that Mr. Botha brought proposals from her husband to Lord Kitchener.

76,000 Horses and Mules.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Secretary Gage today submitted to the House a reply to the resolution of inquiry as to whether United States ports or waters have been used for the exportation of horses, mules or other supplies for use in South Africa. Mr. Gage states that between Oct. 1899, and Jan. 31, 1901, horses, mules and other supplies to the extent of \$26,595,692, were exported to South Africa. No steps were taken to prevent the lawful exportation of horses, etc. The number of horses and mules shipped from American ports during this period was 76,002. The chief shipments in addition to horses and mules were wheat, canned beef and rum.

Rebels Detained.

Cape Town, Feb. 28.—A number of alleged colonial rebels, who are being detained at Beaufort West, Cape Colony, by the military authorities, today applied to the Supreme Court for their immediate liberation. The prisoners reside in Aliwal North. Gen. Sir Fred Forester Walker, the base commander at Cape Town, opposed the application for their discharge, on the ground that the district is in a disturbed condition, and also because a Boer commando is reported to be at a point about seven miles from Beaufort West.

May Arrive Sunday.

Ottawa, Feb. 28.—The Strathcona Horse, under Lieut. Col. Steele, are expected to arrive at Halifax on Sunday or Monday. The Militia Department will defray the cost of transporting the men to their homes and afterwards bill Lord Strathcona for the amount.

The Man of Iron.

London, Feb. 28.—"There is a rare flow of spirits in the War Office over the South African situation," said a prominent official to-night. "Kitchener is fast mauling the life out of the Boer resistance. He is showing the same relentless temper that marked his advance on Khartoum. He gives little attention to polite despatch-writing, and none to strategic or tactical hair-splitting. Only one consideration weighs with him—that of pressing day and night, after the fleeing enemy, and smashing him wherever overtaken."

"It is doubtful if any other officer of the British army could have grappled with the peculiar problems of the South African war, in its late phases, as Kitchener is doing. The immense area of the fighting zone and the high mobility of the Boers have made necessary feats of sustained endurance such as only a commander of the ex-Sirdar's stamp could have compelled his troops to perform. We are happy to believe that the struggle is rapidly nearing its end."

Not Immune to Bullets.

New Haven, Feb. 28.—The killing of Major A. L. Howard, or "Gatling Gun" Howard, as he was sometimes called, formerly of this city, in South Africa on Feb. 17th, has recalled an incident of the farwell dinner tendered him at the Union League Club here just previous to his departure for Canada, where he joined a company of volunteers for the front. The New Haven friends of Major Howard had hoped that he would abandon his attention of going to war, and they tried their best to dissuade him from it, but he overruled all of their wishes.

At the dinner Major Howard was very light-hearted. During the conversation at the table former Police Commissioner Marcus P. Smith said: "Major, you've been pretty lucky in battle, but let me tell you that the bullet that is going to kill you has already been cast. You'll not live through the Boer war." Major Howard laughed away the

remark, and then becoming serious, said in reply:

"Mark the bullet never was nor can be made that will kill me. I'm immune from death by a bullet."

Some Boer marksman proved the contrary last week when Major Howard's death was reported to the London War Office.

"Gat" Howard's Death.

Ottawa, Feb. 28.—Col. Sherwood received a cable this morning confirming the death of Major "Gat" Howard. The cable was as follows: "Newcastle, Natal, Feb. 28.—Chief Dominion Police, Ottawa—Regret to report death of Major Howard, Canadian Scouts, killed in action with French's Scouts, General, Natal."

Col. Sherwood says that the only explanation he can arrive at is that Major Howard must have had a paper in his pocket directing that a message be sent in event of death in action, or that the gallant soldier was mortally wounded and gave directions to have him notified.

More Boer Prisoners.

Pretoria, Feb. 28.—Gen. Smith-Dorrien has captured east of Amsterdams a large number of cattle, 60 horses, 40 wagons, and 80 prisoners. Gen. French has taken fifty more prisoners, in addition to a quantity of stock and a number of wagons.

How British Pro-Boers View Affairs. London, March 1.—Leonard Courtney's Conciliation Committee concedes that the Republicans are in a much worse condition now than they were a few months ago. This committee has given out the following view of the present status of the war in South Africa:

"Kitchener's strategy is proving effective. He acted wisely in abandoning the pretence of occupying the whole country. He evacuated the outlying towns, and devoted himself, so far as negative operations were concerned, to protecting his lines of communication. This enabled him to launch a tremendously increased force against the burghers, and thus change the British campaign from the defensive to the offensive."

"De Wet's and Botha's losses of men, horses, small arms, and ammunition must count vitally against them. Their losses in sheep, cattle and artillery are not serious. Many able soldiers hold that they should have abandoned their big guns as soon as they began their present type of warfare."

"Their food just now consists of other things than fresh meat. They live chiefly on dried meat, so that their losses in cattle and sheep will affect them only ultimately. Meanwhile they may succeed in obtaining some kind of terms. Nobody here knows where De Wet is or precisely how much he has recently suffered. In a word, the South African situation is still full of uncertainty."

The Situation of Affairs.

Lord Kitchener's latest reports on the situation in Cape Colony and the Transvaal are more promising from the British point of view for an early termination of the war than any others yet received. The devastation of the southwestern Transvaal by Gen. Methuen and of the country west and south of Swaziland, in which Amsterdam and Piet Relief are situated, by Gen. French, must render military operations of any kind in those districts out of the question for the rest of the war.

The Boers in the latter districts are reported broken up and scattered. A good deal depends on whether the British are holding the railway in sufficient strength to prevent the commandoes falling back before Gen. French from reaching the mountains round Lydenburg. The season seems to hamper the British seriously, the rains all over South Africa being reported to be exceptionally heavy, with high wind storms.

There is no question but that the invasion of Cape Colony has failed. Should Gen. De Wet return to the Orange River Colony he will find the districts through which he will have to pass to get back to his old field of operations north of Bloemfontein bare of supplies and swept of all its four-footed stock, and the coming on of the South African winter will add enormously to the hardships of the only kind of warfare he can now carry on. The only chance he would have of keeping the field would be through the capture of British convoys and supply trains on the railways.

Lord Kitchener's presence at Middeburg, between Pretoria and Komatipoort, makes it appear that he is directing a strong blockade of the line to prevent the Boers south of the railway from passing into the mountains to the north. On the whole, the news from South Africa is reviving in interest, because of the prospect there seems of the British policy of devastation effecting its object.

Dillon's Strong Language.

London, Feb. 28.—"Not since the days of the Romans," said Mr. John Dillon (Irish Nationalist) in the House of Commons today, on the resumption of the debate on the address in reply to the King's speech at the opening of Parliament, "had an army made a habit of capturing women and children as the British soldiers in South Africa were doing." "This," Mr. Dillon added, "was cruel and cowardly. To put Boer women on half rations because their husbands had not surrendered, as was the undoubted practice in the reconcentrated camps, was worthy of the worst brigands of Sicily and Greece. This plan of starving women and children and been adopted by the War Secretary, Mr. Brodrick."

Mr. Dillon then went over the record of the war, referring to the house-burning, etc., availing that in treachery and cruelty the balance was against the British. He con-

gratulated the Boers on having a different record.

Mr. Brodrick replied that the British conduct was humane. It was not true that the country had been devastated deliberately, and by wholesale. Farm houses had been burned for cause, and portions of the country had been devastated because it had been fought over five or six times.

In some cases, said Mr. Brodrick, the Boers deserted their houses, and the Kaffirs burned them. The Secretary, during his remarks, reaffirmed that the Government had not the slightest intention of giving way in the question of independence.

Mr. Dillon's amendment was rejected by a vote of 243 to 91.

London, Feb. 28.—There has been gossip for several days that General Kitchener would meet Commandant-General Botha on Wednesday to discuss the question of the latter's surrender. It was impossible to trace the rumor to its source, or to procure any sort of confirmation. The Chronicle this morning gives prominence to the following, which it frankly admits it has no means of verifying: "We have received from a quarter that we have every reason to believe is trustworthy, a report that General Botha has surrendered to General Kitchener."

If this should prove true, the coincidence of the surrender occurring on the anniversaries of Majuba Hill and Paardeberg is somewhat remarkable. Gen. French's huge capture of stock and supplies, and the general denudation of the scene of the operations in the Eastern Transvaal are regarded as favoring the probability, but, on the other hand, the correspondents at Pretoria declare that Gen. Botha has crossed the railway to Delagoa Bay, and on Tuesday was to the north of Middleburg, apparently making for General Viljoen's headquarters beyond Roesen Kraal, the seat of the Boer Government.

One correspondent at Van Rensburg says that Boer peace delegates recently attempted to arrange a meeting with General Botha at Bethel, but the latter wrote, refusing to meet them, saying that if he ever desired to negotiate for peace he would do so with the British directly. Some persons deduce from the fact that a despatch from General Kitchener is dated Middleburg, Feb. 27th, the probability that a meeting has occurred or is occurring there.

The mystery concerning the whereabouts of Gen. De Wet continues. One correspondent reports that more of his followers were captured yesterday, and that the chase was being continued. Another correspondent, under date of Tuesday, says that a general action was then impending.

French the Hero of the Hour.

London, Feb. 27.—Gen. French's most recent success, combined with the other advantages gained by the British forces in South Africa, have created a most hopeful feeling in the War Office here. Lord Raglan, Under-Secretary of War, described it as being "the thin end of the wedge," and this is also the opinion of the military critics, who reiterate that while the war could not be expected to end with a sudden stroke, this constant capturing of men, guns, supplies and horses meant that the operations would soon be reduced to a dacoit stage. Gen. French is quite the hero of the hour on Pall Mall, though of course Gen. Kitchener's controlling hand is recognized under every circumstance. It is felt by Mr. Brodrick and Lord Roberts that so long as the British forces are doing something to diminish the Boers' supply of men, mounts and ammunition, they are achieving the only possible objective at present in sight.

Ministerialists Relieved.

London, Feb. 28, 1 a.m.—The favorable news from the Transvaal causes much relief among the supporters of the Government. The khaki election was held in good time, owing to the adroitness of Mr. Chamberlain, and the Unionist party is strongly entrenched in power, but it is an awkward thing for Sir Michael Hicks-Beach to be forced to admit that a deficit of at least £50,000,000 must be provided for by Parliament, with the war still unfinished. This is the estimate made on the Liberal side without official information, but unless the increases from various sources of revenue are larger than anybody has ventured to forecast these figures are not likely to be reduced in the budget speech.

The total cost of the Boer war has been concealed by various devices, but it will exceed £130,000,000. Prominent Liberals have asserted that the aggregate would be over £140,000,000 if the accounts could be closed at once. For this reason the supporters of the Government are not awaiting the budget speech in a spirit of optimism. The effect of that speech will, however, be less discouraging if they can assert that the bottom has been reached, and that the war has ended.

Sick of the War.

Durban, Natal, Feb. 27.—Advisers have been received here from Lorenzo Marques to the effect that a Portuguese transport is being awaited there to take to Portugal the prisoners who were recently captured during the Boer raid into Portuguese territory. It is said that the prisoners number 750. Many of the Boers offered to surrender to the British Consul, but a majority of them refused, owing to the fact that they were rebels from the Cape Colony, and feared being tried for treason. Many of the prisoners could have escaped had they been so disposed, but they gave themselves up willingly, which shows that they are sick of the war. The report of a plot among the prisoners is absolutely denied. They are split into many cliques. Fever is said to have played havoc with the captives. There

were 27 funerals in one day.

Trade is at a standstill. The railway has not been taken over by the British, and this causes some discussion regarding the outcome of the Anglo-Portuguese alliance.

TWO CHINESE HEADS FALL.

Ching Su and Hsu Cheng Yu Decapitated

BEFORE 10,000 WITNESSES.

Feeling That There Should be No More Blood Shed—Sir Robert Hart's Case—Protest Against Seizing His Property—Famine Causing Much Suffering.

Peking, Feb. 26.—A crowd of fully ten thousand persons witnessed the execution of Chin Su and Hsu Cheng Yu, who were beheaded here today in compliance with demands of the powers. The members of the various Legations were conspicuously absent, feeling that if they were present they might seem to be gloating over their fallen adversaries. Every power, however, was largely represented by military officials and soldiers, also a staff from each of the foreign powers. Besides these many missionaries witnessed the executions.

The condemned men met death stoically. In each case one blow severed the head from the body.

Enough Blood Shed.

At the time the execution was being carried out the Ministers held a meeting and determined on the part of the majority to draw a curtain over further demands for blood. United States Special Commissioner Pockhill sided strongly with those favoring humane methods, who are Sir Ernest Satow and Mm. Komara.



LI LUNG CHANG.

Colgan and DeGiers, respectively British, Japanese, Spanish and Russian Ministers. Others believed that China had not been sufficiently punished, and that men should be executed in every city, town and village where foreigners had been killed. The minority was composed of those who were not here during the siege, including Dr. Mumm Von Schwartzstein, the German Minister, while those who were besieged here are of a more peaceable frame of mind, including M. DeGiers and Senor De Colgan, both of whom are of the opinion that it was a mistake to leave those who had suffered like the besieged Ministers did to conduct the peace negotiations with the Chinese. However, it is safe to say that little more blood will be demanded.

Sir Robert's Case.

Another important point that was brought up at the meeting was the foreign quarters. Mr. Rockhill impressed the ministers by his remarks regarding the protest of Sir Robert Hart, chief of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, against the seizure of his property to increase the area of the legations, saying that the services rendered the powers by the financial representative of China should have prevented the indignities and spoliation inflicted. The feeling is general that Italy recede from her position and return the property she has taken, and that if it be necessary for her to increase her legation she should take land elsewhere.

Dr. Mumm Von Schwartzstein, the German Minister, and the Marquis Salgado Raggi, the Italian representative, expressed high appreciation of Sir Robert Hart and regretted that matters of state made necessary the taking of lands of the customs officials.

Sir Ernest Satow and Mr. Rockhill thought an exception should certainly be made of Sir Robert Hart's personal property, and that the limits of the legation should be definitely the same as published.

Hon. Mr. Davis announced this morning that the grant of 160 acres of land to all who had served in South Africa would probably be extended to four war correspondents also.

The largest city in the U. S. in Washington's time was Philadelphia. It had 60,000 inhabitants.

ANTICOSTI EXPROPRIATION

Imperial Government Will Take No Action.

MESSAGE FROM CHAMBERLAIN.

Montreal, Feb. 27.—The representative of the heirs Langan, who held a half share of the Island of Anticosti prior to the litigation sale, the legality of which is about to be contested, today received a despatch from the Secretary of State in a reply to a letter sent last month to the Hon. Mr. Jos. Chamberlain.

In the communication to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Langan representative pointed out the absurdity of urging that, because M. Menier has paid a mere bagatelle for and taken possession of the Island of Anticosti, he cannot be disturbed. He went on to show that under the Militia Act of Canada, the island can be expropriated by the Dominion Government for military purposes, adding that no one here desired to dispossess M. Menier without compensation. He also pointed out that the Provincial Government was impotent to move in the matter, the Federal Government would like to do so if certain of national approval, and therefore urged the Home Government to bid the Dominion Parliament to expropriate the island, place it in a position of strong and ample defence, both from a naval and military standpoint, and so restore British soil to British possession, expropriating M. Menier and repatriating the evicted Fox Bay and other settlers.

The Secretary of State wrote as follows:

The communication, reaching here today, supplementary to a despatch from His Excellency the Governor-General, which stated that His Excellency had referred your letter to Mr. Chamberlain to the Dominion Government. Having reference to your letter of the 11th ult., addressed to the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain I am directed to inform you that the subject upon which you write is not one in respect of which the Imperial Government can take action.

The next move in the matter will, it is said, be made in the House of Commons at Ottawa, where Mr. Geo. Taylor, M. P., has given notice for the production of all letters, papers and other documents relating to the Island of Anticosti. The subject of the expropriation of Mr. Menier and the repatriation of the evicted settlers will, it is said, form matter for an early debate on a motion to go into Committee of Supply, and what is then left unsaid will be supplied in committee of supply.

THE ROYAL THANKS

Conveyed to U. S. Senate for its Kindly Resolution.

Washington, Feb. 28.—When the Senate convened today, the President pro tem, Mr. Frye, presented a letter from the Marquis of Lansdowne expressing the appreciation of His Majesty King Edward VII. for the resolution of the Senate, adopted upon the occasion of the death of Queen Victoria. The letter, which was sent to Ambassador Choate, and by him transmitted to the State Department, and by Secretary Hay sent to the Senate, is as follows:

London, Feb. 14, 1901. Your Excellency.—The Prime Minister laid before the King the copy of the resolution of the Senate of the United States of America, which Your Excellency forwarded in your note to me of the 8th instant.

By command of the King I am to request Your Excellency to be so kind as to express to the President of the Senate His Majesty's most sincere thanks for the mark of respect shown by the Senate of the United States to the memory of her deeply lamented Majesty, Queen Victoria, Empress of India.

The terms of the resolution are highly appreciated by His Majesty. I have the honor to be, etc.

Signed: Lansdowne.

To His Excellency the Hon. Joseph H. Choate.

SMALLPOX IN HALDIMAND.

An Outbreak of the Disease Near Cayuga.

Toronto, March 1.—News was received last night in the city that another case of smallpox, having its origin in the infected Sudbury district, had broken out near Cayuga. The man is quarantined about six miles from Cayuga. Dr. King, of Cayuga, who has charge of the case, was called yesterday afternoon, and at once took active steps to prevent the disease spreading. The man had a certificate, so it is stated, from Sudbury showing that he was supposed to be free from any danger of the disease, on February 12th. He has been in the neighborhood of Cayuga for over a week, but the disease was only discovered yesterday. There is no knowing how many persons he may have exposed to the disease.

The Ontario Government has selected a site a few miles from Sudbury as the location for a temporary smallpox hospital camp. Tents are in course of erection, and accommodation for 12 patients will be ready to-day; enlargements will be made later.

Sault Ste. Marie will be expected to isolate and look after patients in that district, but will have the assistance of the Government in connection therewith.